

REMARKS

Examiner Donald Heckenberg and Supervisory Examiner Nam Nguyen are thanked for the courtesy of the interview granted to Applicants' counsel on September 09, 2001. The claims and the prior art were discussed at length. Applicants' counsel understood Examiner Heckenberg to say that he would consider Applicants' amended adjustable relief valve which, when activated, would release hardened molten resin and simultaneously eject the molded part.

In view thereof, the Examiner's comments together with the cited references have been carefully studied. Favorable reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The specification has been changed to correct the problems kindly noted by the Examiner.

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application. Claims 5 and 6 have been canceled. Claim 1 herewith is amended. Claims presently active are claims 1 (amended), 2-4, and 7-10.

Claims 1, 3-7, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimoto et al. in view of Nomura et al. The rejection is traversed. It is the conclusion of the Examiner that "It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the Applicants' invention to have modified the apparatus of Kimoto et al. as such to have made the mold from cast-epoxy and thermosetting material because it would be easy to construct the mold from these materials as suggested by Nomura et al."

Applicants' respectfully submit that Kimoto et al., alone or in any legally permissible combination with Nomura et al. do not teach or suggest the invention as presently claimed. Applicants' pressure relief valve provides for the simultaneous release of molten resin and the molded part along when pressure is exceeded in the first flow path. More particularly, as recited in Applicants' claim 1, as amended:

a pressure relief valve located on said mold parting line against said first molten resin flow path at said terminal end of said hollow and adapted to release said molten resin from said first molten resin flow path into said second molten resin when pressure of said molten resin in said first

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molten resin flow path exceeds a predetermined value thereby simultaneously releasing said molded part from said cavity mold.

This feature is not taught or suggested by either Kimoto et al. or Nomura et al. Support for Applicants' novel and unobvious feature can be found in FIG. 2 and in Applicants' specification at page 5, lines 10-28.

In view thereof, it follows that the subject matter of the claims would not have been obvious of Kimoto et al. in view of Nomura et al. at the time the invention was made.

Claims 2, and 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimoto et al. modified by Nomura et al. as applied to claims 1, 3-7, and 10 above, and further in view of Valyi and Gardner. The rejection is traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the features of Valyi and Gardner envisioned by the Examiner in combination with Kimoto et al. and Nomura et al. still do not teach or suggest Applicants' invention as presently claimed for the same reasons above.

In view thereof, it follows that the subject matter of the claims would not have been obvious of Kimoto et al. modified by Nomura et al. and further in view of Valyi and Gardner at the time the invention was made.

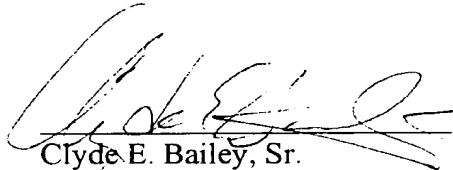
Applicants have reviewed the prior art made of record, and believe that singly or in any suitable combination, they do not render Applicants' claimed invention unpatentable.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendment, the claims 1 (amended), 2-4, and 7-10 are now deemed allowable and such favorable action is courteously solicited.

Should the Examiner consider that additional amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the favor is requested of a telephone call to the undersigned counsel for the purpose of discussing such amendments.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.**"

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Version With Marking To Show Changes Made, 2 sets (3 sheets each)
formal drawings



Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

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In the Specification:

The paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 has been amended as set forth below:

The present application is related to U.S. Application Serial Number [(Docket 80027), filed herewith,] 09/453,760, filed December 02, 1999, by Radzio, et al., and entitled, "Pressure Relief Valve For Non-Metallic Injection Molds," and U.S. Application Serial Number [(Docket 80028), filed herewith,] 09/453,328, filed December 02, 1999, by Radzio, et al., and entitled, "Method of Releasing Pressure In Non-Metallic Injection Molds."

In the Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended as set forth below:

1. (Once Amended) An injection molding apparatus for making a molded part, comprising:

an injection molding machine for injecting molten resin, said injection molding machine including a screw cylinder having a tip, a nozzle at said tip and a threaded screw advanceable in said screw cylinder for injecting molten resin from said nozzle, said injection molding machine further having structurally associated therewith a stationary portion and a movable mold portion forming a mold parting line therebetween;

a non-metallic injection mold comprising a cavity mold and a core mold forming a hollow therebetween for forming an injection molded product therein, said cavity mold being accessible by said stationary portion and said movable mold portion;

a first molten resin flow path extending from inside said screw cylinder to a terminal end of said hollow; and,

a pressure relief valve located on said mold parting line against said first molten resin flow path at said terminal end of said hollow and adapted to release said molten resin from said first molten resin flow path [at a] into said second molten

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resin when pressure of said molten resin in said first molten resin flow path [greater than] exceeds a predetermined value thereby simultaneously releasing said molded part from said cavity mold.

Claims 5 and 6 have been canceled.